

Art Unit: 2834

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-19 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Applicant's arguments regarding the combination of Ueyama and Nishikura are persuasive. The references of the Prior Art of Record fail to teach or suggest either alone or in obvious combination the limitations as set forth in the independent claims, and specifically comprising the limitations of the piezoelectric substrate being attached to at least one surface of the elastic body and the movable shaft being coupled to the piezo/elastic structure.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jaydi SanMartin whose telephone number is (571)272-2018. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 9-7.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Quyen Leung can be reached on 571-272-8188. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jaydi SanMartin/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2834

10/23/08